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Your Reference: 09/270,111 Our Reference: 5562-769 g.11.al

REC REC

AUG -9 2000

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RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

The Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A. 20231

Dear Sir:

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/270,111

Group No. 1724

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONCENTRATING A GAS USING A SINGLE

STAGE ADSORPTION ZONE

Filed: March 16, 1999 Applicant: Conrad et al.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the application as follows:

in the Claims:

A pressure swing adsorption apparatus for producing an enriched stream of a first fluid from a stream containing the first fluid and at least one second fluid, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for reversibly adsorbing the at least one second fluid to produce the enriched stream;
- (b) pressurizable storage means for receiving at least a portion of the enriched stream;
- (c) outlet means in flow communication with the storage means for venting at least a portion of the enriched stream from the apparatus;
- (d) purging means for removing at least a portion of the at least one second fluid from the means for reversibly adsorbing the at least one second fluid during a purging cycle; and
- (e) <u>mechanical</u> actuating means operably associated with the purging means for actuating the purging cycle upon the pressurizable storage means reaching a preset pressure.

